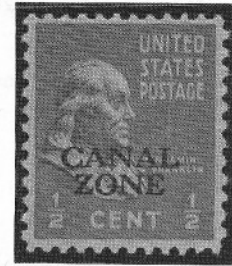




# The Canal Zone Philatelist



Vol. 33, No. 1

First Quarter, 1997

Whole No. 122

## President's Message

Tom Brougham

P.O. Box 443

Berkeley, CA 94701

(510) 843-2459

Pacific 97 fast approaches and we expect that many members will attend this once-in-a-decade show.

The hub of CZSG activities will be our society table. We hope all members attending Pacific 97 will drop by early and often. The table will be a place to get information about our organized and informal activities and to rendezvous with other members.

Our membership meeting will be held Saturday afternoon, May 31. We are putting together a balanced program consisting of updates of current and future CZSG projects and brief presentations on a range of philatelic topics. An additional meeting of the CZSG Board, to which any member is welcome, will also be held.

David Leeds will conduct guided tours of the CZSG-sponsored exhibit he has prepared for the Pacific Rim Court of Honor. Many outstanding items of Canal Zone philately will be on display, thanks to the participation of half a dozen

(Continued on page 10)

## 1997 Mail Sale

Consignments for the 26th Mail Sale should be sent to arrive no later than July 5, 1997. Certificates are required on Scott first issue and #15. An inventory must accompany all consignments. Damaged, soiled, or poorly centered copies of lower value stamps, as well as ratty covers, are respectfully declined and will be returned to the vendor. Ship material insured or registered. The sale will close in late September.

Please send material to:

Richard H. Salz

60-27th Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94121-1026

## ABNCo Specimens of the Type V Overprints

by Gary B. Weiss, James W. Crumpacker, and David J. Leeds

This installment of the series of articles (see list CZP 121:24) on the American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) Canal Zone archive specimens addresses the Type V overprint of the Portrait series, regular issues which are now listed as Scott Nos. 55-57. (See Figs. 1-5.) According to *Canal*

and a single printing of the 5c, as indicated in Table I.

The initial Type V printing was for the 2c denomination, archive date May 7, 1920, and delivery date August 31, 1920. This was followed by an order for all three denominations archived October 22, 1920, and delivered March 3, 1921 (2c), and April 13, 1921 (1c and 5c). The final Type V reorder was for the 2c, archived March 5, 1923, and delivered April 1923. Meanwhile, postal requirements had been met by the 1921 Centenary of Independence issue, Scott Nos. 60-66.

### Marginal (selvage) markings:

As indicated in *Canal Zone Stamps* (p.84), ...the Portrait Series "...has many different[marginal plate]markings, making this subject complicated. The markings are not always constant from denomination to denomination; they may be different for different plates of the same denomination...and they may have been added at one or more times in the life of the plate."

(Continued on page 2)



Fig. 1. 1c CZSG 55.S, F 6566.

*Zone Stamps* (CZS) there were single deliveries of the 1c and 5c and three deliveries of the 2c stamp. No distinctions have been made about these three 2c deliveries. The archives provide the exciting information that there was one printing of the 1c stamp, three of the 2c,

## Meeting Notices

Meeting of the CZSG are scheduled at:  
**PHILATELIC SHOW 97**, Holiday Inn, Boxborough, at Rte. 111, Exit 28, off I-495, Boxborough, MA, Saturday, 2-4 p.m., April 26, 1997.

**ROMPEX 97**, Denver, Colorado, Holiday Inn, I-70 at Chambers Road, Aurora, Saturday, May 17, 1997.

**PACIFIC 97**, San Francisco, California, Moscone Center, Saturday 2:00-3:30pm, May 31, 1997.

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Table I: Portraits — Type V

P'psd. No.	Basic No.	Denom.	Red F#	Engraved F#	Qty. Ovpt.	mm	Spec.	Archive Date
55.S	55	1c	6566	6566	300	13.7 x 2.2	Red	Oct 22, 1920
56.AS	56	2c	6407	4068	300	13.6 x 2.4	Red	May 7, 1920
56.BS	56	2c	6565	4068	100	13.6 x 2.4	Red	Oct 22, 1920
56.CS	56	2c	7289	4068	300	11.2 x 2.2	Red	Mar 5, 1923
57.S	57	5c	6566	6566	300	13.6 x 2.4	Red	Oct 22, 1920



Fig. 2. 2c CZSG 56.AS, F 6407.

We are still unable to describe all of the various marginal plate markings with absolute certainty. Selvage is partly or completely missing on some of the archive panes. These markings do provide an additional clue to the identification of the F# of some of the printings, particularly for the regular issues having attached top selvage. CZS notes that the Panama stamps were printed in sheets of 200 and the Canal Zone stamps overprinted as panes of 100. Data on the marginal (selvage) plate markings of the Portrait Series, Type V follow:

1c F 6566 Left Pane

Pos. 1-2 1 Centesimo No. in green.

Pos. 5-6 Centerline (inverted T) in green and black.

Pos. 6-10 REPUBLICA DE PANAMA-1 CENTESIMO F-6566. The F# (Pos. 9-10) appears in both green and black.

Pos. 10+ Guideline.

Pos. 41, 51 Centerline in green and black.

Pos. 95-96 Centerline in green and black.

1c F 6566 Right Pane



Fig. 3. 2c CZSG 56.BS, F 6565.

Selvage missing from Pos. 1, 3, 6-8; however format appears identical to the 5c F 6566 Right Pane.

Pos. 1-2 1 Centesimo No. Green

Pos. 5-6 Centerline.

Pos. 9 A over the e of Centesimo. In black; may be preceded by a reversed number and is not present in the 5c.



Fig. 4. 2c CZSG 56.CS, F 7289.

2c F 6565 Right Pane

Not available, but probably similar to F 6407 or F 7289 2c Right Pane, following. Dropped "E", 7th to 10th rows.

2c F 7289 Left Pane

Identical to 2c F 6565 Left Pane, above.

(Continued on page 3)



## ABNCo... Type V...

(Continued from page 2)

Pos. 1-5 **REPUBLIC PANAMA 2 CENT STAMP F-4068** in black.

Pos. 5-6 Centerline in red and black.

Pos. 8-9 **F-4068** in red.

Pos. 10+ Guideline in red and black.

Pos. 41, 51 Centerline in red and black.

Pos. 95-96 Centerline in red and black.

2c **F 7289 Right Pane**

UR corner selvage, reversed 3 in both black and red. Additional red 3 almost falling off UR corner of pane.

Pos. 1-5 **REPUBLIC PANAMA 2 CENT STAMP F-4068** in black.

Pos. 5-6 Centerline in red and black.

Pos. 9-10 **F-4068** in red.

Pos. 50, 60 Centerline in red and black.

Pos. 95-96 Centerline in red and black.

5c **F 6566 Left Pane**

Similar to the 1c 6566 Left Pane above.

Pos. 1-2 **5 CENTESIMOS NO.** in blue.

Pos. 5-6 Centerline in blue and black.

Pos. 6-10 **REPUBLICA DE PANAMA-5 CENTESIMOS F-6566**. The F# (Pos. 9-10) appears in both blue and black.

Pos. 41, 51 Centerline in blue and black.

Pos. 95-96 Centerline in blue and black.

5c **F 6566 Right Pane**

Pos. 1-2 **5 Centesimos No.** in blue.

Pos. 5-6 Centerline in blue and black.

Pos. 6-9 **REPUBLICA DE PANAMA 5 CENTESIMOS** in black.

Pos. 9-10 **F 6566** in blue and black.

Pos. 10 Reversed 5 in black.

Pos. 50, 60 Centerline in blue and black.

Pos. 95-96 Centerline in blue and black.

Centerlines in the two plate colors overlap.

The purpose of the reversed numbers in the upper right corners of some right panes is not known. They may represent rework or new plates. Note that they change in time and occasionally also include the first letters of the alphabet.



Fig. 5. 5c CZSG 57.S, F 6566.

### Spacing between CANAL and ZONE, and Broken Letters:

Spacing between CANAL and ZONE is not as uniform as in the previous issue.

Most positions have a spacing of 9.5 to 9.75mm; however, variations are present and are addressed sequentially with respect to F#.

The first setting, F 6407, 2c, May 7, 1920:

Most positions = 9.5-9.75mm.

16 Positions =  $9.25 \pm 0.1$ mm.

Pos. 76 = 9.4mm.

Pos. 40 = 9.9mm.

(This Pos. 40 occurs on only one of the two left hand panes and not on the single right pane. Otherwise the variations are identical for all of the other positions of left and right panes.)

No dropped E of ZONE.

No consistent broken letters.

Specimen 13.6 x 2.4mm.

The identical variations in both right and left panes confirm that the overprint was done by the 100 pane.

A second setting, F 6565, dated October 22, 1920.

A single setting with very few spacing or broken letter differences between the seven panes of the three denominations of this and following F 6566.

F 6565, 2c:

Most positions = 9.5-9.75mm.

18 Positions =  $9.25 \pm 0.1$ mm.

Pos. 36, deformed UR serif N1.

No dropped E of ZONE.

Specimen 13.6 x 2.4mm.

A third setting, F 6566, used on the 1c and 5c is also dated October 22, 1920. It has the first dropped E.

F# 6566, 1c & 5c:

Most positions = 9.5-9.75mm.

15± Pos. on 5c =  $9.25 \pm 0.1$ mm.

11± Pos. on 1c =  $9.25 \pm 0.1$ mm.

Dropped E Pos. 2, 8, 12, 32, 33, 40, 52, 62, 73, 82, 89.

1c Pos. 1, L & R, broken L.

1c Pos. 26, L & R, broken A2.

1c Pos. 55, L & R (partial) broken AN.

5c Pos. 26 R, broken A2.

5c Pos. 68 R, broken E.

5c Pos. 79 R, broken O.

5c Pos. 88 R, broken E.

Specimen 1c 13.7 x 2.2mm.

Specimen 5c 13.6 x 2.4mm.

A fourth setting, dated March 5, 1923, F 7289, 2c:

All positions = 9.5-9.75mm.

Dropped E on most positions of last four rows.

No constant broken letters.

Specimen 11.2 x 2.2mm

Variations of from 0.1 to 0.2mm are noted in the dimensions of the October 22, 1920 SPECIMEN overprints, F 6565 and F 6566. As far as can be determined these are due to differences in inking and strength of the impression; the specimen form itself is the same for all three denominations.

The specimen overprints are all red. The later F 7289 is visibly smaller than the two earlier 2c specimen overprints, F 6407 and F 6565, which appear identical. They can only be distinguished by the penciled identification on the back of each stamp. The illustrations show both even though they appear identical.

Obviously, there is no identification problem for either the 1c or 5c printings since there was only one printing of each denomination.

The varieties of Z under C and E under L, reported in the CZS checklist for the 5c (CZSG Nos. 57.2 and 57.3) were not found on the archive sheets. There is some variation in the positioning of ZONE relative to CANAL but no examples are shifted far enough (on the specimen sheets) to qualify as the variety. CZS also notes one variety of the 2c, a broken (missing) N of ZONE in position 94; this is not found on any of the seven 2c panes. Other broken letters are listed in the spacing table. With the use of color photocopies, rather than the originals, for this study, small constant flaws might be missed. Those listed for F6566 are present on more than one pane. It is intriguing that the varieties of the 5c appear only on the right panes.

One of the interesting minor varieties of the Type V overprint on this (and following) issue is a tilting or dropping of the E listed in CZS (CZSG Nos. 55.3, 56.2, 57.4). The variety is not present on F6407 and F6565. On F6566 a number of stamps show the variety and there is variation from the small drops to larger drops. It appears in about 10 positions throughout the plate. On F7289 the frequency has increased, but it is only present in the bottom rows of the sheet. The cause of this variety is unknown. It may relate to loose type.

The 2c poses a new problem: or how to distinguish the three printings/settings of the basic overprint. The spacings are all essentially uniform except for the few noted varieties. We are unable to generally determine the printing or setting of a single stamp. On some examples of the 2c with dropped E, the stamp can be placed as the third or fourth printing. Usages prior to March 1921 can be identified as the first printing. Destructive tests of the paper and ink have not been carried out. At this time, the second printing can be determined only by the penciled F number on the 100 examples found in the archives. These are one of the scarcest varieties but are otherwise indistinguishable from the first printing.

## Magazine Article Review

by David L. Farnsworth

There is a well-written cover story titled "Inside the Panama Canal" in the Fall 1996 issue of *American Heritage of Invention and Technology*. The author is Frederick Allen, who is editor of the magazine. The fifteen page article is nicely illustrated with color photographs. The text effectively alternates between history of the canal and the author's experiences while on a study tour, which included a transit. The tour was organized by the Society for Industrial Archaeology.

## Foreign Navals in CZ

The charter for the Panama Canal requires that the canal be open to ships of all nations. So even belligerents would theoretically have access to the canal. Of course on their approach the US Navy would have dissuaded them from entering. But during peacetime a number of foreign warships have transited the canal and left a philatelic imprint.

*La Argentina*, Fig. 1, is from an Argentine training ship. The Argentine official stamp is cancelled by the blue ship's device; it also has a Cristobal Paquebot dated April 29, 1940. The cover is to a former member of CZSG and appears to have been prepared by him.

*H.M.C.S. Levis* (Fig. 2) is a Canadian ship. The Canal Zone stamps are canceled by a January 1934 CDS "PAQUEBOT POSTED AT SEA". We do not know if the cancel is shipboard or at some port. The cover was recently sold at the (August 24, 1996) Cornish Stamp Company auction. Jon Berman provided the photocopy. We do not know the present owner.

The most frequent foreign ships to transit the canal have flown the British flag. Several are even depicted on picture post cards. *H.M.S. Danae* has prepared cachets for their foreign visits (Fig. 3). The cover shown has CZ franking and has a routine Balboa machine cancel, June 14, 1935. There is a black rubber stamp ship's marking on the reverse showing the name of the port and the date. The silver and red printed cachet gives vital statistics about the ship.

*H.M.S. York* also has a specially prepared printed cachet with the Panama flag in full color, Fig. 4. The ship's mail office date stamp (September 28, 1938) avoids the CZ postage which is canceled by a Balboa slogan, "Speeds World Commerce".

The "blind" cover shown, Fig. 5, has a censor marking from a British ship "FROM H. M. SHIP / PASSED BY CENSOR/SIGNATURE-DATE", and a "blind" U. S. Navy machine cancel with US franking, January 22, 1946. While it was obtained with other CZ material there is no assurance that the item is CZ related. Additional interpretation would be appreciated.

Copies of other similar CZ related foreign warships are solicited. Please send a good photocopy to the Editor.



Fig. 5. H.M. Ship.

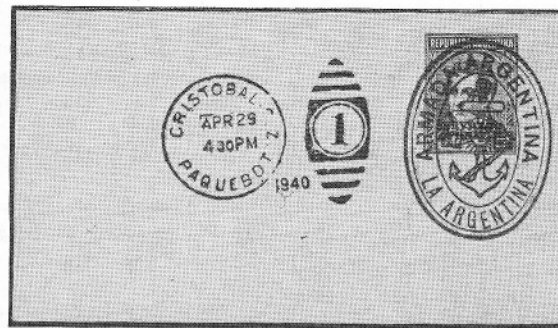


Fig. 1. AA La Argentina at Cristobal.



Fig. 2. H.M.C.S. Levis at Balboa.

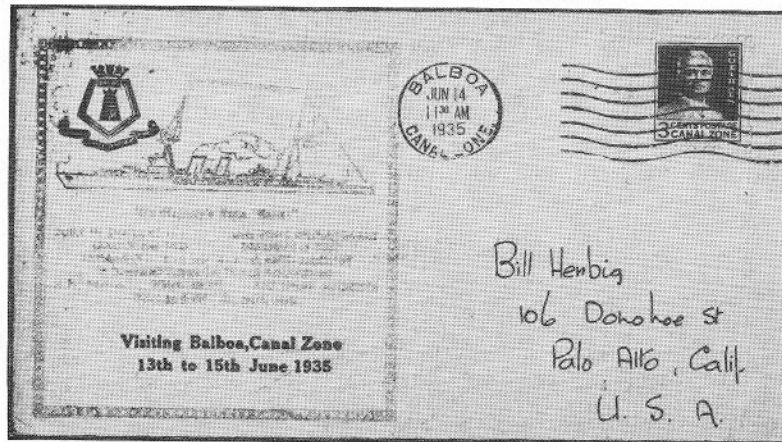


Fig. 3. H.M.S. Danae at Balboa.

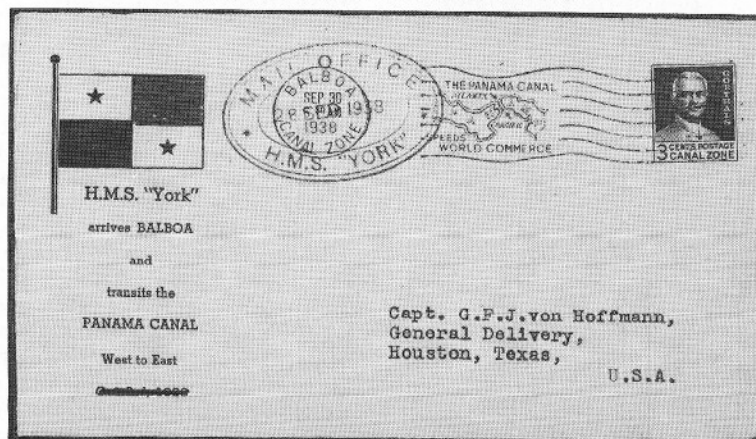


Fig. 4. H.M.S. York at Balboa.



## **The Canal Zone Philatelist A.P.S. Affiliate No. 42**

David J. Leeds, Editor  
P.O. Box 491472  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

*The Canal Zone Philatelist* (ISSN 0746-004 X) is published quarterly for \$8.00 per year, which includes membership in the Canal Zone Study Group, 1749 W. Sauvignon Dr., Tucson, AZ 85746. Periodical publications postage paid at Tucson, AZ. POSTMASTER: Send address changes and complaints of non-delivery to the Secretary, John C. Smith, 408 Redwood Lane, Schaumburg, IL 60193.

Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Advertising Manager, Richard Spielberg, 4535 Via Del Buey, Yorba Linda, CA 92686. (714) 693-3349; FAX (818) 915-8279.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone or FAX the Editor: (310) 472-0282. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

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### **Secretary's Report**

John C. Smith  
408 Redwood Lane  
Schaumburg, IL 60193

We start 1997 with 819 active members including 108 members who have not paid their dues yet. Hopefully, you have received your 1997 dues notice by now. The dues are STILL \$8.00 for regular membership. If you have not paid please do so; it will save me from sending out reminder notices. You may want to consider paying a year or two in advance and save yourself time and postage. Contributing members who pay at least \$15 and Sustaining members who pay at least \$25 will be recognized in the Third Quarter *Philatelist*.

This is the start of my eleventh year as CZSG Secretary. Maybe I'm a little wacky but I've enjoyed every one of them. Believe me, the job keeps me busy almost every day. I'm 50 years old and still working with kids at home. Many of you know my only interest in philately is Canal Zone. Point is, my heart and soul are completely involved in keeping our membership happy as members in the best philatelic group in the world! It has been a pleasure working with the Study Group and my hope is to continue as long as you let me. Enjoy our hobby and spread the good word. This year started with my finding an O4 on cover in a pile of covers rubber banded together, and the show vendor unaware of its real value. This is the beauty of looking for Canal Zone stamps. I bet many of you have experienced the same.

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### **ARIPEX 1997 Report**

Our southwest regional CZSG meeting was held at ARIPEX in Tucson, Arizona on January 25, 1997. With 10 active members and 2 spouses, attendance was about what it has been for the last several years.

Our new Business Manager, Jim Baxter, spoke about the complexities of the mailing system for CZP: labels, bar codes, dubious computer software, and dancing with Post Office personnel. CZP does leave Tucson in a timely fashion.

For the second year in a row there was only limited, although well presented, Canal Zone material (as part of Clyde Jennings' "The Half-A Collection", CZP 114:6-7) shown in the competitive frames.

The status of ongoing projects for CZSG and CZP was presented by or on behalf of those working on them. Lawson Entwistle is preparing a writeup on recent postal marking discoveries; this is expected to appear as an addition to an issue of CZP, not as a thick supplement as was done after his original book on the subject. Dr. Cary Finder's work on announcement cards is also approaching publication.

The best of show'n'tell was Dick Salz' album full of CZ meters, a subject worthy of an extensive update in our journal.

See you next year in Phoenix.

Jim Crumppacker

## CZ Exhibits at PACIFIC 97

Canal Zone Gems, CZSG Members,  
Pacific Rim Court of Honor.

Canal Zone Second Air Mail Series,  
Paul Ammons, Frames 0278 - 0282.

Canal Zone Postal Stationery 1907-  
1924, Irwin Gibbs, Frames 2176 - 2180.

Booklet Panes & Covers — United  
States Possessions, Richard Larkin, Frames  
0307 - 0311.

## Book Reviews

by David L. Farnsworth

*The Tailor of Panama* by John le Carré  
(New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1996) (ISBN  
0-679-45446-2), 332 pages, \$25.00), also  
available on audiocassette, read by the  
author, abridged by Michelene Wandor  
and Chris Wallace (New York: Random  
House Audio Publishing, 1996) (ISBN 0-  
679-45813-1), four cassettes, six hours,  
\$25.95.

This is a superb novel that has contem-  
porary Panama as its setting. The Panama  
Canal is the story's *sine qua non*. Con-  
cerns over the canal passing into Pana-  
manian hands drive the story. Possible  
foreign influence in the area heightens  
the urgency. Of course, this le Carré work  
involves espionage and intrigue. It is his  
sixteenth novel and has been on best-  
seller lists and was a Book-of-the-Month  
Club main selection.

There is character revelation more  
than development. The people involved  
seem almost predetermined to play their  
parts. We get to know well a man with  
a seedy past who is the tailor of Panama.  
Since he is tailor to many powerful and  
well-connected Panamanians, he is re-  
cruited to supply information to the  
British. Unfortunately, he needs the  
money very badly but has little useful or  
real information. So, in the style of  
Graham Greene's *Our Man in Havana*, he  
makes up elaborate plots. Since Britain  
and many other countries are interested  
in and worried about the future of the  
canal, the tailor's stories are acted upon.  
No character is a hero, but they are  
described so well that the reader is  
interested in what happens to them. They  
are not heroic, partly because each has  
his own little world view and limitations  
(but don't we all?).

Le Carré, né David Cornwall, is a  
master storyteller. His characters are  
brought to life, and the story is engaging.  
At the same time, le Carré's wit makes  
the book humorous in the sense that  
human folly is humorous.

The taped version is vigorously and  
expressively read by le Carré. One piece  
of advice on the tapes: Set the volume  
louder than you would otherwise, so that  
you can hear all of his nuances of speech  
and not miss the parts where he greatly  
drops his voice.

## CZSG Dealers at PACIFIC 97

The following CZSG members will have  
dealer booths at PACIFIC 97:

Ray L. Coughlin.

Pat Dowling

20th Century Classics.

David Grossblat.

Andrew Levitt.

Robert L. Markowitz.

Brian Moorhouse.

Michael Ornstein

Superior Stamp & Coin.

Jacques C. Schiff, Jr.

Jack M. Solens

(Armstrong Philatelics).

Lawrence M. Weinstock.

## CZ/APO Reopenings

The U.S. Postal Bulletin February 1946  
confirms these dates:

"The following post offices in the Canal  
Zone were reopened on the dates shown  
below:

Post Office	Date of Reopening
Albrook Field .....	Feb. 28, 1946
Fort Clayton .....	Feb. 20, 1946
Fort Wm.D.Davis .....	Feb. 18, 1946
France Field .....	Do.
Howard Field .....	Feb. 16, 1946
Fort Sherman .....	Feb. 26, 1946
Fort Gulick .....	Feb. 25, 1946
Quarry Heights .....	Feb. 23, 1946

George Cosentini

## Customs Declarations

From the U.S. Postal Bulletin, Febru-  
ary 13, 1951:

"INSTRUCTIONS OF ASSISTANT  
POSTMASTER GENERAL, BUREAU OF  
FINANCE —

"CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS RE-  
QUIRED ON PARCELS ADDRESSED TO  
CERTAIN MILITARY POST OFFICES.

"For convenience, there is shown below  
a revised list of the Military Post Offices  
to which parcels may not be dispatched  
unless accompanied with the required  
customs declaration on Form 2966 or  
2976-A:

Care Postmaster, New Orleans, La.:  
APO 825-832, 834-837"  
From George Cosentini

[Editor's Note: Would someone clarify  
the subject of Customs Declarations?  
When were they required and for what?  
Import? Export? There were no duties  
imposed on imports from Panama into the  
Canal Zone, however it appears that  
customs regulations were applied to  
shipments from other U.S. as well as  
foreign offices.]



Society Table  
Canal Zone Exhibits  
Meeting, May 31, Sat., 2 p.m.

## Scott 1997 Specialized Catalogue

by Jim Crumpacker

If all you collect is Canal Zone, there  
is no need to purchase a copy of the 1997  
Scott Specialized Catalogue of United  
States Stamps. Meaningful price changes  
from 1996 are non-existent as not a single  
postage stamp, mint or used, with a 1996  
catalogue value of more than \$15 had any  
price change up or down. There were no  
price decreases at all and the few gainers  
for stamps were tiny to up 50%; the one  
tagged issue (Scott 164a) went from \$3.50  
mint to \$8.50. There were no "on cover"  
price changes.

About 40% of the Air Post issues had  
modest increases, nearly all the changes  
were in the "used" column.

All the Proofs were up, most gaining  
exactly \$100 in catalogue value.

Within any single set, the greatest  
number of advances was in the CZ Scott  
#120-135 group and all for used:

Scott	1996	1997
124	\$2.00	\$3.00
125	2.00	3.00
126	2.75	3.50
128	7.50	8.50
130	7.00	8.00
131	4.00	6.00
132	7.50	8.50
133	6.00	7.50
134	13.00	17.50
135	4.00	6.00

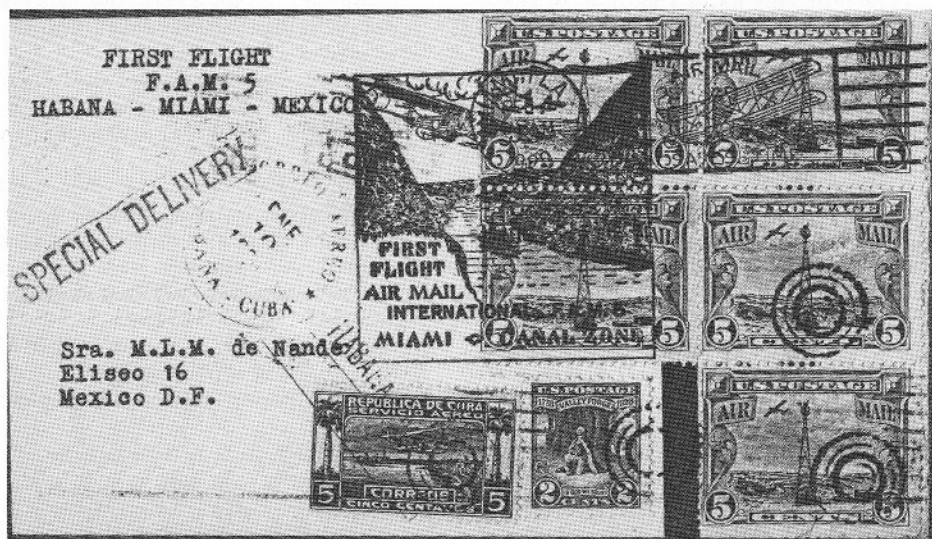
These adjustments are suspect since  
some of the Anniversary issues are  
common with a First Day cancel but very  
elusive with an ordinary cancel.

## LAST DAY COVER, FORT AMADOR

With neat printed cachet showing the  
First Day 1918 cancel...Postpaid, \$5.00

Julius Grigore, Jr.  
425 Harbor Drive, South  
Venice, FL 34285





## FAM 6-2 Havana - Miami FAM 5-1

### Miami - CZ - Mexico

A Havana collector contrived this combination cover, first dispatch from Havana to Miami, FAM 6-2, January 10, 1929 connecting with the first flight from Miami to Cristobal, FAM 5-1, February 4, 1929. Cuban air postage is paid with a 5c Cuban airmail stamp. No Cuban cachet was provided. The idea is not so farfetched when you consider that both flights were originally scheduled to begin service early January 1929. The FAM-6 leg was only 8 days late in getting started; FAM-5 more than a month. The cover is addressed to Mexico so that Cristobal is not the most direct route. The route to Mexico is uncertain, probably slow boat.

D. J. Leeds

## FAM 5-1

### Miami - Cristobal - Lima

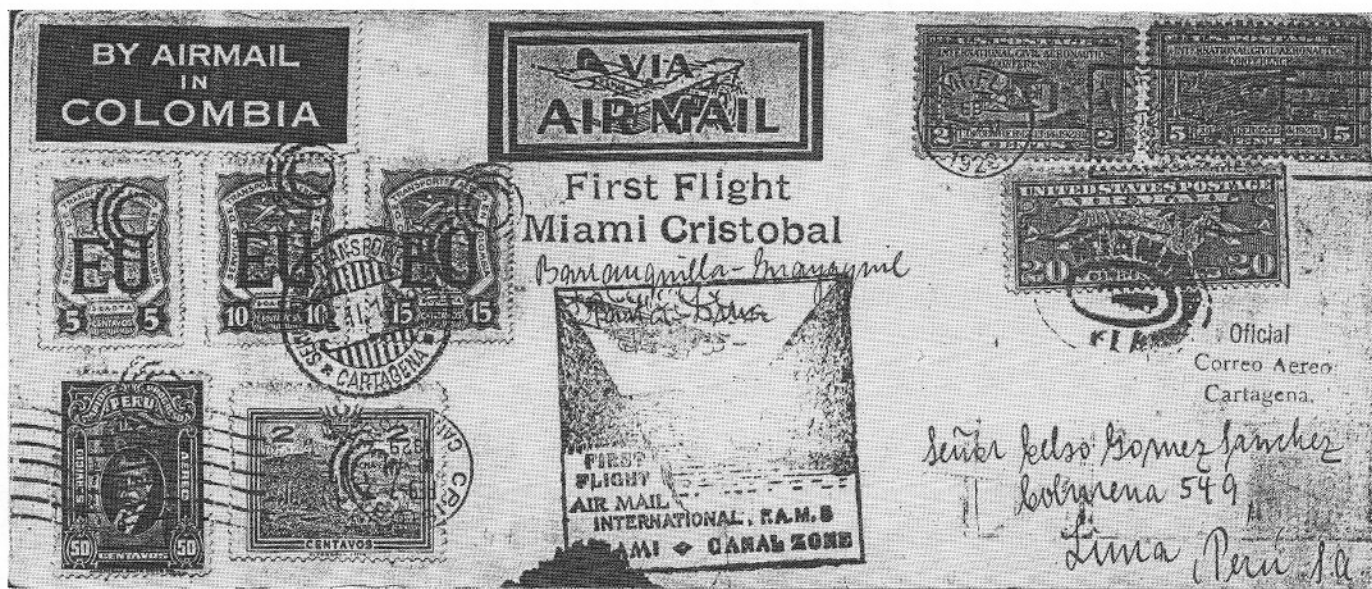
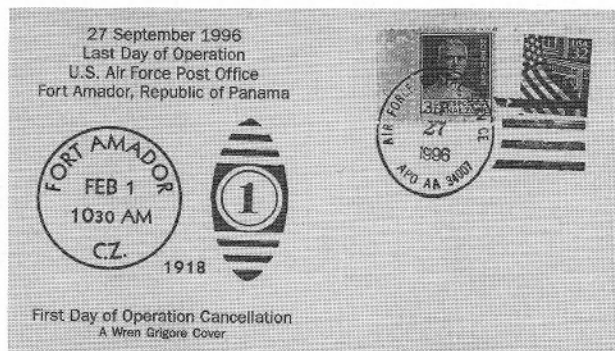
Air service southward beyond Cristobal is demonstrated on this cover. After the FAM5-1 inaugural flight from Miami to Cristobal it received SCADTA service, from Cristobal to Barranquilla and Cartagena, Colombia prepaid with the Consular (EU, Estados Unidos) SCADTA stamps. It probably also flew SCADTA as far as Guayaquil, Ecuador.

The cover is properly dated Miami February 6, 1929 with Cristobal arrival (lower left corner) February 7.

Since it did not arrive in Lima until February 26 (backstamped) it must have missed the last air segment.

## Last Day, Fort Amador

The U.S. Air Force Post Office, APO AA 34007, had its last day of operation September 27, 1996. Covers showing the first Fort Amador postmark as a printed cachet were prepared by Wren Grigore as illustrated.



## Shifted Overprints on Official Air Mails

by Paul F. Ammons

Shifted overprints on CO7 have been previously discussed in these columns (CZP 94:5, 96:18, and 113:35). Based on an examination of eleven intact panes of CO1-7, 14 (including two each CO1, CO4 and CO14), shifted overprints are not limited to CO7.

Two considerations seem to be working together to bring about the observations previously discussed: vertical migration in the overprint plate itself and improper registration during the overprinting process at Mount Hope. The impact of improper registration was discussed in CZP 113:35. Vertical migration can only be observed in vertical strips, large blocks, and intact panes.

The following notes should be of assistance in interpreting Table 1, which summarizes the most recent findings.

- Distance from the top frame line to the top of the overprint was measured to the nearest 0.5mm using a magnifying glass and one of the newer, clear Linn's multi-gauges.
- Vertical migration is attributable to the overprint plate. The measurement at positions 1 and 46/5 and 50 were compared. In all cases, the measurements indicated the same degree of plate migration in columns 1 and 5. "Up" indicates that the overprint appears to move higher on the stamp as you go from row 1 to row 10 in the same column.
- The apparent rotation from positions 1-5 and 46-50 is caused by improper registration between the overprint plate and the stamp pane during the printing process. Measurements at positions 1 and 5/46 and 50 were

compared. In all cases, the measurements indicated the same degree of improper registration.

- The apparent rotation at positions 1-50 is due to the combined effects of vertical migration and improper registration.

Based on the initial measurements, three different overprint plates seem to have been used in overprinting the panes examined. As expected, the CO7 pane exhibits the greatest vertical migration.

However, the CO5 pane shows the greatest improper registration and the CO6 pane the greatest combined effect of vertical migration and improper registration.

I would be pleased to examine other intact panes and large multiples to further this study. Anonymity, if requested, will be maintained. Please write me at PO Box 1311, College Station, TX 77841-1311.

**Table 1: Overprint Migration and Misregistration**

Intact Pane				Top Frame Line to Overprint Measurement										Vertical Migration		Apparent Rotation					
Scott #	Face Value	Desc	Orient	Position										Amt	Direction	Pos 1-5		Pos 46-50		net 1-50	
				1	3	5	16	21	26	31	46	48	50			Amt	Angle	Amt	Angle	Amt	Angle
CO1	5¢	CTO	LR/NSE*	8.5		8.0		8.0	8.0		7.5		7.0	1.0	up	0.5	up	0.5	up	1.5	up
		Unused	LL/NSE*	7.5		7.0		7.0	7.0		6.5		6.0	1.0	up	0.5	up	0.5	up	1.5	up
CO2	10¢	Unused	LL/NSE*	8.0		7.5		7.5	7.5		7.0		6.5	1.0	up	0.5	up	0.5	up	1.5	up
CO3	15¢	Unused	LR/NSE*	7.5	7.0	7.0		7.0	7.0		6.5	6.5	6.0	1.0	up	0.5	up	0.5	up	1.5	up
CO4	20¢	Unused Red Violet	LR/NSE*	9.0	9.0	9.0		8.5	8.5		8.0	8.0	8.0	1.0	up	0.0	n/a	0.0	n/a	1.0	up
	20¢	Unused Drk Violet	LL/NSE*	7.5		6.5		7.0	7.0		6.5		5.5	1.0	up	1.0	up	1.0	up	2.0	up
CO5	30¢	Unused	UL/NSE*	5.0	6.0	7.0	5.0	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.5	6.5	0.5	up	-2.0	dwn	-2.0	dwn	-1.5	dwn
CO6	40¢	Unused	LL/NSE*	7.5		6.5		7.0	7.0		6.5		5.5	1.0	up	1.0	up	1.0	up	2.0	up
CO7	\$1	Unused	LL/NSE*	7.0	7.5	7.5		6.5	6.0		5.5	6.0	6.0	1.5	up	-0.5	dwn	-0.5	dwn	1.0	up
CO14	6¢	Unused #1	LR/GL*	7.5		8.0		7.0	7.0		6.5		7.0	1.0	up	-0.5	dwn	-0.5	dwn	0.5	up
		Unused #2	LR/GL*	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	0.5	up	0.0	n/a	0.0	n/a	0.5	up

\*NSE = Normal Straight Edge

GL=Guide Line

mm=measurement in millimeters



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## Martha Washington: Canal Zone

by W. A. Rader

Is Martha Washington connected to the Canal Zone?

If you look deep enough you can almost always find a "connection" between people and things.

My interest in Martha Washington began many years ago when I acquired a plate number block of the U.S. 1902 8¢ black Martha Washington stamp. This line engraved (intaglio printing) is striking in its design, symmetry, and color. I feel quite comfortable with this classic form of printing and hope it continues. Because of the costs entailed in their production the hand engraved stamps will probably be issued less frequently in the future. But to get on with the "connection"...

British Admiral Edward Vernon stormed the Spanish stronghold of Porto Bello (see CZ J4 or J7) on the Caribbean north coast of Panama in 1739. Serving on board this ship was a young officer named Lawrence Washington. Lawrence was a half-brother of George Washington. Several years passed and Lawrence retired from the British Navy and soon inherited a plantation on the south shore of upper Chesapeake Bay. He renamed the plantation "Mount Vernon" in honor of his previous commander. Later, Mount Vernon passed into the hands of George Washington who subsequently (1759) married

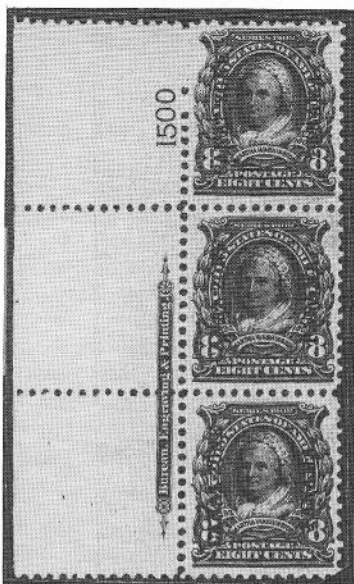


Fig. 1. CZ #7, Martha Washington

Martha Custis, the widow of the late Daniel Park Custis.

The Washingtons called Mt. Vernon their home for many years; both died there and are buried there. Martha died in 1802 and, interestingly, she was the first woman to be depicted on our regular issue postage stamps. The stamp was issued 100 years after her death and was part of the Second Bureau Issue. Two years later (July 18, 1904) this stamp, along with the 1¢, 2¢ (new design), 5¢, and 10¢ of this issue were vertically

overprinted "Canal Zone / Panama" (Fig. 1). It is shown used in Fig. 2.

Martha Washington again appeared on a Canal Zone stamp on September 1, 1939 in the form of a Fifth Bureau horizontally overprinted 1 1/2¢ brown stamp (Fig. 3)—the Presidential Issue.

These two overprinted stamps, i.e.; the 8¢ black and 1 1/2¢ brown are extremely difficult to find on cover where their use is not "put-up" or philatelically inspired. It is unfortunate that this is the case because they are both very attractive stamps and the overprints are done with handsome serified instead of the sans serif fonts, sometimes called "Gothic" or "Grotesque" type.

The histories and background of our stamps are another reason that stamp collecting is so popular with so many people.

[Editor's Note]: The note above was prepared by W. A. Rader from his Martha Washington exhibit shown at ROMPEX last year. The Canal Zone portion of the exhibit included mint and used blocks of 4 of CZ #7, and a cover with the set #4-8. The 1938 version was represented by plate number blocks of both the brown and bistre brown. Usage was first day (cacheted) covers, philatelic ship covers, and covers from philatelic sources. Mr. Rader has since been provided with a properly used 1 1/2¢ cover. Your Editor is still searching for a commercial 8¢ 1904 cover.

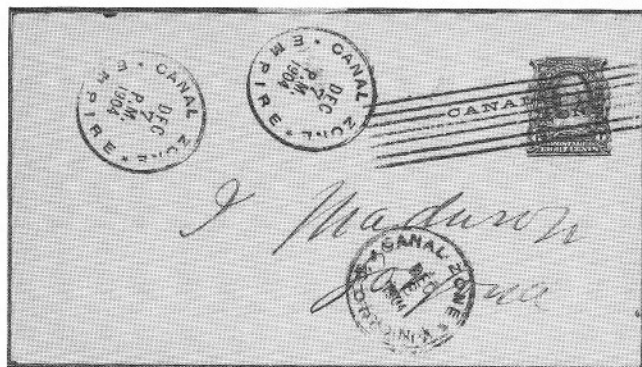


Fig. 2. Typical CZ #7 Cover.

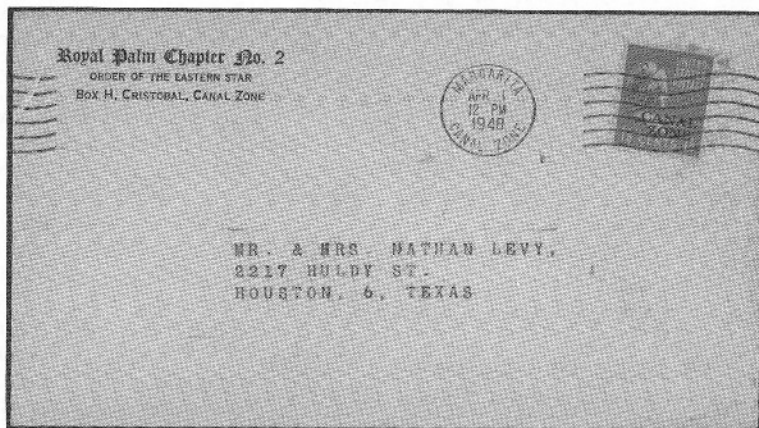


Fig. 3. CZ #119, Proper 1 1/2¢ unsealed rate.

## CZ J10-J11, Pan.J3, Addenda

Our preceding issue, CZP 121:41, carried a note and illustration of a forwarded/dead letter office cover with postage due stamps of both Panama and the Canal Zone. We requested an explanation of where the money went.

Bill Allen responded with several possibilities tracing the route. Another suggested *The Canal Zone Official Postal Guide*. The 1929 Edition (which we assume to be pertinent to the era), provided direction on the handling of "postage due matter forwarded outside

the Canal Zone." See Chapter 4, Section 78 (b).

After languishing in the Colon post office for 4 1/2 months and collecting the 4c J3 on the reverse, it was forwarded to Cristobal. The Cristobal post office applied 6¢ in postage due stamps. The rate is difficult to rationalize. If it is based on the original postage there was only 1d due, equal to 2¢. Colon doubled the deficiency to 4c, which appears correct. Cristobal should have done the same thing, 4¢ due, but appears to have overcharged. Colon probably had a method similar to the CZ, though probably more complicated procedure for recovering the

uncollected postage due. An explanation follows.

Since the letter was still undeliverable, under regulation Sec. 78 (b), it was required to be submitted, under cover, to the Director of Posts, with an accompanying Form 1115. Then, since the postage due stamps were already stuck on and canceled, Cristobal could recover its 6¢ using Form 1148. We presume that the Director of Posts transmitted the letter to New Zealand where, if undeliverable, it was disposed of by the New Zealand Dead Letter Office.

When in doubt read the instructions.

## Auctions

by Jim Crumpacker

Other than the Helme auction (200 CZ lots), reported in *CZP* 121, the major Canal Zone offering of the Oct. 1-Dec. 31 quarter was of 80+ lots by a new firm, Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions.

Without these two events, the three-month period was one of only moderate activity for CZ postage stamps at auction and middling to poor for covers and postal stationery.

The selling price realized is shown first followed by the catalogue value, in parenthesis, from the 1997 *Scott's Specialized*; any commission is included.

- 2, TG, H, F+ \$68 (\$240) Kelleher
- 6, OG, H, VF \$81 (\$110) Regency
- 9d, double overprint, F on F cover with pair of #17, 1906 to New Zealand \$3300 (\$n/a) Rumsey
- 10a, inverted overprint, OG, NH, VF+ \$265 (\$250) Ivy & Mader
- 10 var., "ON" of ZONE dropped, OG, NH, VF in margin bl. of 9 with 8 normals \$220 (\$307) Rumsey
- 13a, CANAL antique, TG, H, F in bl. of 4 with 3 normals \$165 (\$285) Rumsey
- 13b, ZONE antique, OG, NH, F+ \$403 (\$175) Ivy & Mader
- 15, OG, H, VG-F \$1725 (\$3000) Regency
- 17, pane of 100, TG to OG/NH, HR's as reinf. F-VF \$150 (\$275) Newman
- 22e, double overprint, OG, H, VF \$219 (\$275) Kelleher
- 24c, double overprint, bl. of 4, OG, HR, F-VF \$1045 (\$2000) Rumsey
- 39c, booklet pane of 6, imperf. margins, OG, NH, VF \$798 (\$675) Rumsey
- 52b, booklet pane of 6, OG (skips), H, VF \$374 (\$850) Harmer-Schau
- 54, OG, H, VF \$138 (\$200) Harmer-Schau
- 56a, double overprint, OG, H, F+ \$633 (\$575) Ivy & Mader
- 73, pl. bl. of 6, #15632-L, OG, NH, F-VF \$154 (\$175) Aldrich
- 86, pl. bl. of 6, #16363-B, OG, NH, VF \$143 (\$165) Aldrich
- 86a, ZONE ZONE, OG, NH, VF in bl. of 9 with 8 normals, \$1485 (\$1132) Rumsey
- 95, OG, H, VF \$86 (\$125) Regency
- 164a, pl. bl. of 4, #172528-LL, OG, H in margin only, couple blunt perfs., o/w F-VF \$173 (\$n/a) Drews
- J17, pl. bl. of 6, #15511, dry OG, H, F-VF \$219 (\$550) Newman
- C1, C3, C4, plus US C13 dispatch post card for the 2nd US dispatch of the 2-6 June 1930 Europe-Pan America Zeppelin flight \$1035 (\$n/a) Drews

The address of the various auction firms are shown below. Please reference *CZP* when requesting a catalog.

Michael Aldrich Auctions, 2575 Fairview Ave. North, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN 55113

R.E. Drews Auctions, 7139 W. Higgins, Chicago, IL 60656

Harmer-Schau Auction Galleries, Inc., 617A Second St., Petaluma, CA 94952

Ivy and Mader Auction Galleries, 32 East 57th St., 11th Floor, New York, NY 10022-2513

Daniel F. Kelleher Co., Inc. 24 Farnsworth St., Suite 605, Boston, MA 02210

Lowell S. Newman & Co., 1500 Harbor Blvd., Weehawken, NJ 07087

Regency Stamps, Le Chateau Village, #106, 10411 Clayton Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131-2911

Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc., 11 Tillman Place, San Francisco, CA 94108

## President's Report

(Continued from page 1)

'contributors.' Additionally, several other members will be exhibiting. You can be sure that any exhibit accepted to Pacific 97 will have outstanding material.

The gathering of so many avid Canal Zone collectors creates many opportunities for exchange of material and information. This is really up to each member attending. We hope that the table and the general membership meeting will facilitate these opportunities. This is a very appropriate time and place to bring drafts of articles, requests for information, and material for trade.

Many out-of-town members have indicated to me that they will be arriving Wednesday evening and leaving Saturday evening or Sunday. Since it is difficult to anticipate the energy levels and schedules of so many different attendees, we have not scheduled a reception or dinner in advance. However, we will try to organize a group gathering for dinner on one or two of the first few days of the show. If you are interested in participating, please inquire at the society table. Canal Zone will be spoken!

While Lawson Entwistle's book on postmarks has tended to push CZ cover collecting to a more sophisticated level, there are still relatively few articles appearing in our publication about postmarks, rates, and usages. I hope that during Pacific 97, members who share an interest in CZ postal history will have an opportunity to meet, exchange information, and make plans for more articles on this area.

Now let me report briefly on the 1996 and the 1997 Mail Sales. The 1996 sale was a struggle, but we managed to get through it. Regrettably, for a few participants it took longer than it should have to get them the right material or the correct amount of money. This first experiment with splitting the sale and operating from two venues taught us some lessons. The 1997 Mail Sale is being organized by Dick Salz along traditional lines. Dick is organizing the overall activity, including writing the descriptions for all stamps. While the sale is organized from one location as in the past, I will be helping Dick by writing the

descriptions of covers and postal stationery. Please see the announcement on the front page about how to submit material.

I hope those members who will not be attending Pacific 97 will not feel too neglected by this report. Since I live half an hour from Pacific 97, I'm prone to get a little giddy in anticipation of this huge eleven-day show.

## Winners

MINNESOTA STAMP EXPO 96, Twin Cities Philatelic Society, Minneapolis, MN, November 30-December 1, 1996. Vermeil to Robert C. Dreibus for "Chronological Usage of Canal Zone Stamps".

SANDICAL '97, San Diego, CA, January 31-February 2, 1997. Gold to David J. Leeds for "Canal Zone Aerophilately", and "AMERISTAMPEXPO 97" (1-frame) Vermeil for "Canal Zone Postal Stationery 1907-1924".

The Dreibus exhibit showed Canal Zone on cover from 1904-1979 in a wide range of towns and destinations, with very few numbers missing. The Minneapolis show is trying to qualify for WSP status.

Leeds' 10 frames of CZ Aerophilately covered the pioneer (1918-1928) and non-FAM material as well as FAM 5, 8, and 9. Outstanding items included in-transit mail on the 1918 flight, the Registry package for the 1920 aborted Jamaica flight, several inbound as well as outbound Zepps, a unique airship Los Angeles cover, the usual Lindbergh autograph, ambulance covers from the 1937 crash, and 1941 Germany to US covers via FAM-9 and FAM-5.

The single frame stationery was a crowded display, mint and used of all of the overprinted Panama stationery. The Judges were upset by the title which indicated "Panama overprinted CANAL ZONE", noting that the round coat of arms has "CANAL ZONE" below but an integral part of the imprint. The registry envelopes included both types and sizes.

## UX5 Fake, Addenda

The preceding issue of *CZP* (120:33) showed a counterfeit UX5. Three illustrations of very similar fakes are noted in *The American Philatelist*, October 1984, page 997, in an article by Glen E. Reno. Scott Nos. 84a, 86e, and 97a are pictured in a sans-serif type not likely to deceive any Canal Zone collector.

## Canal Zone Precancels

*Linn's Stamp News*, October 14, 1996, page 50, answers a question from one of its readers about CZ Precancels. The response gives a concise history and description of this interesting sideline. The author credits *CZSG's Canal Zone Stamps*, and *...Postal Markings...* The *CZSG* Secretary is given as a source for additional information.



## Howard AFB Markings

by Matthew Hovius

For those whose CZ collections end on September 30, 1979, the postal markings of current APOs in the old Zone may be uncharted territory. But a lot of interesting Postal History items can be found in the mails of the 24th Air Postal Squadron — successor to the Canal Zone Postal Service.

After the switch from "APO Miami" to "APO AA" in July 1991, Howard Air Force Base was generally slower than other APOs in changing its canceling devices as Fig. 1 shows. However, the new



Fig. 1. APO AA Miami 34001.

standard APO AA device was spotted on mail in early 1993 (Fig. 2). It is virtually



Fig. 2. New standard APO AA.

identical to devices used at Amador, Clayton, etc.

But in late 1994, a new device was sighted (Fig. 3). This is unlike any other



Fig. 3. Rounded lettering.

handstamp I have seen, since the "APO AA 34001" is in rather thick, rounded lettering. The upper part of the device, however, is in "normal" postmark lettering — what Lawson Entwistle's book might call sans serif condensed.

A lot of unusual postmarks appear around Christmas, when mail volume swells. After learning of this new marking, I sent myself a letter a few months later hoping to "capture" another one. Instead I received the cancel shown in Fig. 4. This April 15, 1995 cancel is



Fig. 4. All rounded lettering.

similar to its predecessor — only in this one, all the lettering is in the new "rounded" type, Fig. 4.

Further mailings from Howard, both sent and received, produced no further evidence of these two postmarks; the "standard" mailing (Fig. 5) has been back



Fig. 5. "Standard" lettering.

in use since then. One wonders about the story behind these cancels' sudden appearance and disappearance.

A late usage of an old APO Miami double circle cancel was also spotted recently on mail leaving Howard. Fig. 6, shows a double circle used on a Certified receipt in January 1991. Note that it is slightly



Fig. 6a. Miami CDS.

larger than those usually seen. Fig. 6b, an example of the new double circle, is shown after the change to APO AA.

The marking in Fig. 6c was applied to the back of a membership statement from the Howard Enlisted Club. It is a clear strike of an APO Miami double circle — almost five years after they were phased

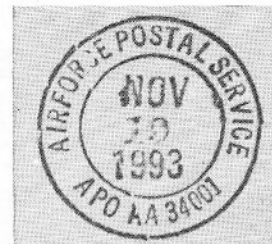


Fig. 6b. APO AA CDS.



Fig. 6c. APO Miami, Late Usage.

out. The double circle usage itself is not particularly uncommon since Howard has used the double circle as a forwarding device and a postmark before. However, the apparent existence of such markings so long after their withdrawal raises interesting possibilities — and questions. Hopefully the continued existence of these devices will not result in a lot of "backdated" material somewhere down the line.

As the remaining post offices in the former Zone close, I hope to keep tabs on any new postal marking devices, and research dates of usage for devices over the past several years. I welcome any information from members with similar material and interests. My address is: Matthew Hovius, POBox 381, Chula Vista, California 91912.

## SANDICAL 1997 Report

A Southern California Regional CZSG meeting was held at SANDICAL in San Diego, California February 1, 1997. Ten members and a participating spouse attended.

The formal agenda was wiped out by the enthusiastic sharing of recent acquisitions. Subjects ranged from re-entries on CZ/US to Money Order Business forms. New member Matthew Hovius was welcomed to CZSG. He promises to be a resource on current postal activity in the former Zone. He is a recent graduate of the University of Costa Rica (in Panama) and is continuing his graduate studies in San Diego.

Two competitive CZ exhibits were on display at the show. See the Winners column for a description.

David J. Leeds

## UNUSUAL CANAL ZONE COVERS

#1 (2c Rose) horiz. strip of three (pos. 51-57) with "Ancon C.Z. - Jul. 9, 1904" c.d.s. to left of stamps, which are tied by violet machine cancel, "Cristobal" transit (same date) on front and "Colon" duplex backstamp (Jul. 11) on reverse. Stamps and cover are very fine, with '93 PF cert. '97 S.R. \$1,500.00 ..... net \$1,350.00

#2 & #3 (5c blue and 10c yellow) f-vf copies, tied "on nose" by "Empire C.Z." c.d.s.'s to v.f. cover, very scarce combination. '78 A.P.S. cert. ex-Tows coll., est. S.R. \$1,000.00+ ..... net \$650.00

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#18 (8c on 50c bistre brown) block of four (with top pair 15mm "PANAMA" l.r. stamp "dropped A'var.") tied to v.f. registered cover by "Sta. A Ancon C.Z. REGISTERED Sep. 1, 1906" c.d.s. most attractive and rare. '95 P.S.E. cert. R.R. for single \$225.00 ..... net \$1250.00

UF1 (10c on 5c black and red entire) with #40 (tiny tear) tied, exceptional condition and rare. '94 P.S.E. cert. '97 S.R. \$2,000.00 ..... net \$1,850.00

**What else do you need in Canal Zone?**

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